

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention provides the concept of a A network channel [[which]] is used as a waiting channel, wherein members of a group other than a first member join the waiting channel [[whilst]]while performing an action or process, and then leave the waiting channel once the action or process has been performed. Once all of the members have left the waiting channel the first member of the group then performs an action or process. In order to indicate to the first member that all of the other members have left the waiting channel, a protocol such as the Multicast Source Notification of Interest Protocol (MSNIP) may be used.